

contents corresponding to the media contents ID from the memory card 9, along with the corresponding rights information. The memory card plug-in 112 supplies the read contents to the transfer processing unit 103 along with the rights information.

Upon a request from the transfer processing unit 103 to move contents, the memory card plug-in 112 reads the contents corresponding to the media contents ID out from the memory card 9, along with the corresponding rights information. The memory card plug-in 112 supplies the contents read out and the rights information to the transfer processing unit 103.

The music piece managing unit 104 records data in the database 107, such as the music piece title, file name corresponding to the contents, etc., and reads out the music piece title, file name, etc., from the database 107. Upon receiving the music piece title or file name from the GUI unit 101, the music piece managing unit 104 adds a record to the database 107, and records the music piece title or file name as a record item.

Upon being supplied with the contents to be imported and the rights information from the transfer processing unit 103, the music piece managing unit 104 records data such as the music piece title, file name corresponding to the contents, etc., and also records the contents in the music

piece file storing unit 108-1 or 108-2. The music piece managing unit 104 generates new rights information based on the rights information supplied corresponding to the imported contents, and records the newly-generated rights information in the rights information storing unit 105. At this time, the rights information generated at the music piece managing unit 104 makes record to the effect that only check-in or check-out is permitted.

Upon being supplied with the contents to be moved and the rights information from the transfer processing unit 103, the music piece managing unit 104 records data such as the music piece title, file name corresponding to the contents, etc., and also records the contents in the music piece file storing unit 108-1 or 108-2. The music piece managing unit 104 records the rights information supplied corresponding to the contents being imported, in the rights information storing unit 105.

In response to a request from the GUI unit 101, the music piece managing unit 104 reads out all music piece titles and music piece IDs or the like recorded in the database 107 and supplies these to the GUI unit 101.

Upon the music piece ID being supplied from the contents managing processing unit 102, the music piece managing unit 104 reads the file name corresponding to the music piece ID from the database 107, and supplies the file

name that has been read out to the contents managing processing unit 102. Upon the music piece ID being supplied from the transfer processing unit 103, the music piece managing unit 104 reads out the file name corresponding to the music piece ID from the database 107, and supplies the file name that has been read out to the transfer processing unit 103.

In response to a request from the music piece managing unit 104, the file searching unit 106 searches for a file (storing the contents) corresponding to the file name from the music piece file storing unit 108-1 or 108-2, based on the file name obtained from the database 107. The file searching unit 106 either supplies the file read out from the music piece file storing unit 108-1 or 108-2 to the music piece managing unit 104, or changes the file name of the file and supplies the file with the changed file name to the music piece managing unit 104.

The music piece managing unit 104 supplies the file storing the contents supplied from the file searching unit 106 to the contents managing processing unit 102 or the transfer processing unit 103.

The database 107 records data relating to the contents, such as, for example, the music piece ID, music piece title, file name, and other attributes. The database 107 is stored in the HDD 21.